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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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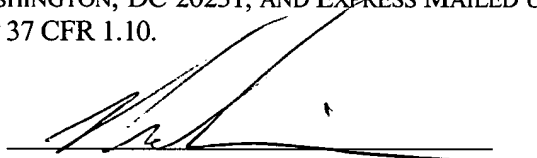
**IN RE UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION:**

<b>Inventors:</b>	John E. Cronin	<b>Filing Date:</b>	02/12/2001
<b>App. No.:</b>	09/781,368	<b>Examiner:</b>	Not Assigned
		<b>Art Unit:</b>	2161
<b>For:</b>	Network-based system and method for facilitating conception of inventions in a directed manner		

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**EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I AM MAILING THE ATTACHED DOCUMENTS TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ON THE DATE SPECIFIED BELOW, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, DC 20231, AND EXPRESS MAILED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF 37 CFR 1.10.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RYAN K. SIMMONS\_\_\_\_\_  
03/26/2001

DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
EK820398455US

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NUMBER

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**RESPONSE TO MARCH 19, 2001 NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION  
IN UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION NO. 09/781,368**

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

SIR:

The March 19, 2001 Notice of Informal Application, a copy of which is attached hereto as appendix A, references an accompanying Office Action, which was not present in the documents received from the



U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 22, 2001. Consequently, the Notice was without a response deadline.

A complete but unsigned Declaration is attached hereto as appendix B. The inventor is presently reviewing the application and a signed Declaration will be submitted upon receipt of a Notice to File Missing Parts.

In the event that any issues remain outstanding incident to the formal allowance of the application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at 802-872-3200 extension 271 (email: [rsimmons@ipcapitalgroup.com](mailto:rsimmons@ipcapitalgroup.com)) to discuss their resolution. In the event that the undersigned attorney cannot be reached, the Examiner is requested to contact William Barrett (Reg. No. 42,296) at 802-872-3200 extension 282 (email: [bbarrett@ipcapitalgroup.com](mailto:bbarrett@ipcapitalgroup.com)).

Please charge any amount required for the entry of this response, or credit any excess, to Deposit Account No. 501787 of ipCapital Group, Inc.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

RYAN K. SIMMONS  
REGISTRATION NO. 45,848  
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS

ipCapital Group, Inc.  
400 Cornerstone Drive, Suite 325  
Williston, VT 05495

Tel. 802.872.3200  
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**Appendix A**  
**Copy of March 19, 2001 Notice of Informal Application**



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APR 02 2001

Group 2100

## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
09/781,368	02/12/2001	John E. Cronin	ipCG-508

CONFIRMATION NO. 4217



\*OC00000005873844\*

ip Capital Group, Inc.  
Suite 325  
400 Cornerstone Dr.  
Winiston, VT 05495

Date Mailed: 03/19/2001

## NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION

This application is considered to be informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. The period within to correct the informalities noted below and avoid abandonment is set in the accompanying Office action.

**A new oath or declaration, identifying this application number is required. The oath or declaration does not comply with 37 CFR 1.63 in that it:**

- does not identify the residence (e.g., city and either state or foreign country) of each inventor.
- does not identify the citizenship of each inventor.
- does not state that the person making the oath or declaration has reviewed and understands the contents of the specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to in the oath or declaration.
- does not state that the person making the oath or declaration believes the named inventor or inventors to be the original and the first inventor or inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought.
- does not state that the person making the oath or declaration acknowledges the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

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*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY

**Appendix B**  
**Copy of unsigned Declaration**



Express Mail No. \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney Docket No. ipCG-508

## DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter claimed in the present application and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**NETWORK-BASED SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FACILITATING CONCEPTION  
OF INVENTIONS IN A DIRECTED MANNER**

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the specification of which (check one):

\_\_\_\_, is attached hereto;

☒ X was filed on 02/12/01, as United States Application Serial No. 09/781,368.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims and the drawings, and including any amendments referred to herein.

### **Duty of Disclosure and Truthfulness of Information Provided**

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the patentability of the above-identified invention of the present application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, section 1.56.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, Title 18 of the United States Code, section 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent issuing thereon.



Express Mail No. \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney Docket No. ipCG-508

### Foreign Priority

I hereby claim foreign priority under Title 35, United States Code, section 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate have a filing date before that of the application for which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Number	Country	Day/Month/Year	Priority Claimed (Yes/No)
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

### U.S. Provisional Application Priority

I hereby claim benefit under Title 35, United States Code, section 119(e) of any United States provisional patent applications listed below: X

Provisional Application Serial No.	Filing Date
<u>60/181,459</u>	<u>02/10/00</u>
<u>60/179,675</u>	<u>02/02/00</u>
<u>60/181,816</u>	<u>02/11/00</u>
<u>60/181,741</u>	<u>02/11/00</u>
<u>60/181,825</u>	<u>02/11/00</u>

### U.S. Non-Provisional Application Priority

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, section 120, of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to the patentability of the above-identified invention as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, section 1.56, which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Prior U.S. Applications: 4

Serial No.	Filed	Status
<u>09/766,456</u>	<u>01/19/01</u>	<u>Pending</u>



Express Mail No. \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney Docket No. ipCG-508

Serial No.  
09/781,361  
09/781,362  
09/781,365

Filed  
02/12/01  
02/12/01  
02/12/01

Status  
Pending  
Pending  
Pending

### INVENTORS

1. Full Name of Inventor: John E. Cronin

Signature of Inventor: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Office Address: 130 Sunset Circle, Milton VT, 05468

Citizenship: USA

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2. Full Name of Inventor: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Inventor: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Office Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

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3. Full Name of Inventor: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Inventor: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Office Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Full Name of Inventor: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Inventor: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Office Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional sheet with Inventor information attached: \_\_\_\_ Yes ☒ No